

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 5, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 4 and 16, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image pickup unit comprising:
 - an image pickup medium;
 - an optical system through which an image of an object is formed on said image pick medium, said optical system comprising an optical element having (i) an incident refracting surface, (ii) an emitting refracting surface, and (iii) a plurality of reflecting surfaces to which light incident in said optical element from said incident refracting surface is sequentially reflected on each of the plurality of reflecting surfaces and is emitted from said emitting refracting surface;
 - a reflecting member which is disposed at a position on a side of the object nearer than that of said optical system, and which reflects light from the object so that the light is made incident on said optical system;
 - reflecting member drive means which drives said reflecting member;
 - an interface for enabling communication with an apparatus main body, the apparatus main body (i) having therein said image pickup unit and (ii) generating a signal to control an operation of said image pickup unit; and
 - a microcomputer which transmits information on a side of the image pickup unit to said apparatus main body and controls said reflecting member drive means on the basis of the signal received from said apparatus main body,
wherein said reflecting member drive means which drives said reflecting member to change an orientation of an image pickup field of said image pickup medium.

2. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
a stop which is disposed on the object side of said optical system.

3. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
a stop which is disposed in said optical system,
wherein an image through said stop is formed at a position on the side of the
object nearer than that of said stop at a negative magnification, by a portion comprising the
optical system.

4. (Currently Amended) A unit according to Claim 3, wherein the
portion comprising the optical system at the position on the side of the object nearer than
that of said stop comprises said optical element, ~~on a surface of a transparent body~~, (i) an
~~optical element having an incident refracting surface~~, (ii) an emitting refracting surface;
and (iii) a plurality of reflecting surfaces to which light incident in ~~said transparent body~~
~~from said incident refracting surface~~ is repetitively reflected and is emitted from ~~said~~
~~emitting refracting surface~~.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

6. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, wherein said optical system
has a plurality of optical components, and further comprising a driver which changes
relative positions of said plurality of optical components, to perform zooming.

7. (Original) A unit according to Claim 6, further comprising:
zooming drive means which drives at least one optical component so as to
change the relative positions of said plurality of optical components, and wherein said

microcomputer controls said zooming drive means on the basis of the signal from said apparatus main body.

8. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising a driver which moves at least one part of the optical components comprising said optical system to perform focusing.

9. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising a drive which moves said image pickup medium to perform focusing.

10. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
distance measuring means which measures a distance to the object to be photographed; and
focusing drive means which drives a focusing operation, and wherein said microcomputer controls said focusing drive means on the basis of a result measured by said distance measuring means.

11. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
in-focus detecting means which detects an in-focus state of the object to be photographed; and
focusing drive means which drives a focusing operation, and wherein said microcomputer controls said focusing drive means on the basis of a result detected by said in-focus detecting means.

12. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
light measuring means which measures a brightness of the object to be
photographed; and
exposure correcting means which corrects an exposure of said image pickup
medium, and wherein said microcomputer controls said exposure correcting means on the
basis of a result detected by said light measuring means.

13. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
image processing means which processes image data so that the image
photographed by said image pickup medium becomes an erect image, irrespective of an
orientation of said image pickup field.

14. (Original) A unit according to Claim 1, further comprising:
image pickup medium rotating means for rotating said image pickup
medium in accordance with an orientation change in said image pickup field.

15. (Original) An apparatus comprising an image pickup unit
comprising a unit according to Claim 1.

16. (Currently Amended) An image pickup unit comprising:
an image pickup medium;
an optical system through which an image of an object is formed on said
image pick medium, said optical system comprising an optical element having (i) an
incident refracting surface, (ii) an emitting refracting surface, and (iii) a plurality of
reflecting surfaces to which light incident in said optical element from said incident

refracting surface is sequentially reflected on each of the plurality of reflecting surfaces and is emitted from said emitting refracting surface;

a reflecting member which is disposed in said optical system, and to which light from the object incident through a portion comprising said optical system and disposed on a side of the object nearer than that of said reflecting member is reflected and is made incident to said portion;

a driver which drives said reflecting member and said portion to change an orientation of an image pickup field of said image pickup medium;

reflecting member drive means which drives said reflecting member;

an interface which provides communication with an apparatus main body, said apparatus main body (i) having therein said image pickup unit and (ii) generating a signal to control an operation thereof; and

a microcomputer which (i) transmits information on the side of the image pickup unit to said apparatus main body and (ii) controls said reflecting member drive means on the basis of the signal received from said apparatus main body.

17. (Original) A unit according to Claim 16, wherein said optical system comprises a stop near the reflecting member.

18. (Original) An apparatus comprising an image pickup unit according to Claim 16.